

SENATE BILL 520

By Niceley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 54
and Title 55, relative to traffic-control signals.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-8-110(a)(8), is amended by
deleting the following language:

Whenever in this state three-light traffic-control signals are used displaying successively green, yellow, and red lights for the direction of motorists and pedestrians, the minimum time exposure of the yellow light shall be three (3) seconds. Any state agency or any political subdivision of the state that installs, owns, operates, or maintains any such traffic-control signal light shall set or cause to be set the timing-control device for the signal light in compliance with this subdivision (a)(8). No state agency or any political subdivision of the state that installs, owns, operates, or maintains a traffic-control signal light in an intersection that employs a surveillance camera for the enforcement or monitoring of traffic violations shall reduce the time exposure of the yellow light at the intersection with the intended purpose of increasing the number of traffic violations.

and by substituting instead:

(A) The department of transportation shall promulgate rules that establish standardized lengths of time a traffic-control signal must display the yellow or "Caution" signal light, when following the green or "Go" signal light. The lengths of time for the display of signal lights for traffic-control signal locations must be standardized by speed

limit. Rules must be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

(B) A state agency or a political subdivision of this state that installs, owns, operates, or maintains a traffic-control signal light shall ensure that each traffic-control signal complies with the standardized display times established by rule pursuant to subdivision (a)(8)(A) and shall not reduce the time exposure of the yellow or "Caution" signal light, including at an intersection that employs a surveillance camera for the enforcement or monitoring of traffic violations with the intended purpose of increasing the number of traffic violations.

SECTION 2. For purposes of promulgating rules, this act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act takes effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.